Labour Market Bulletin

Quebec

August 2018

This Labour Market Bulletin provides an analysis of Labour Force Survey results for the province of Quebec and its regions.

OVERVIEW

There was little change in total employment in Quebec in comparison to last month, according to the latest estimates of Statistics Canada's Labour Force Survey. Gains in full-time employment (+16,500 jobs or +0.5%) were lower than losses in part-time employment (-18,800 jobs or -2.3%), which is rather similar to the data in the previous month. It is worth noting that only the 55+ age group (in comparison to the 15-24 and 25-54 age groups) saw an increase in employment levels in comparison to July. While employment was virtually stable in Quebec (-0.1%), it fell in Ontario (-1.1%) and, to a lesser extent, in Canada as a whole (-0.3%), also due to significant declines in part-time employment. In comparison to August 2017, the overall picture for employment in Quebec was positive, with the addition of 19,900 jobs (+0.5%, which is probably close to the long-term growth rate). Full-time employment added 56,600 jobs while part-time employment lost 36,700. The gains came from the private sector and from self-employment, while employment in the public sector posted a decrease in comparison to last year.

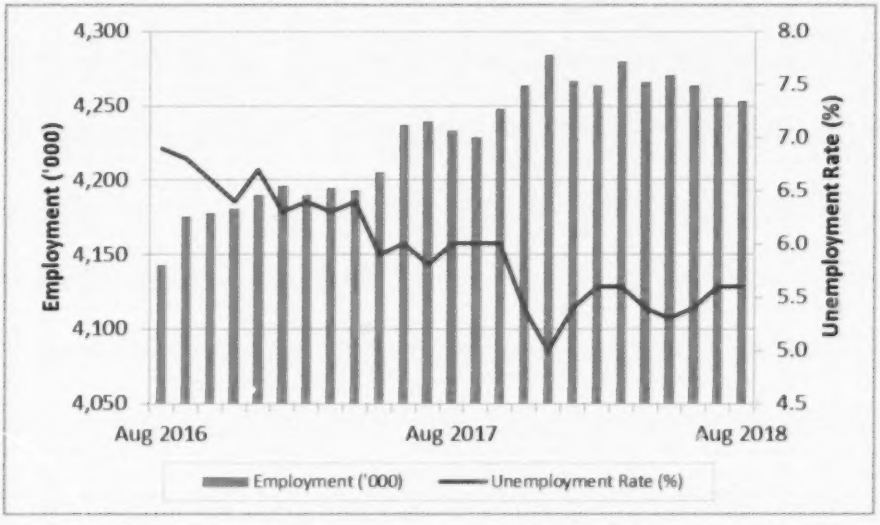
Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics

Seasonally Adjusted Monthly Data	August 2018	July 2018	August 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Population 15 + ('000)	6,994.3	6,989.4	6,940.7	4.9	0.1	53.6	0.8
Labour Force ('000)	4,504.5	4,505.7	4,504.3	-1.2	0.0	0.2	0.0
Employment ('000)	4,253.3	4,255.6	4,233.4	-2.3	-0.1	19.9	0.5
Full-Time ('000)	3,463.1	3,446.6	3,406.5	16.5	0.5	56.6	1.7
Part-Time ('000)	790.2	809.0	826.9	-18.8	-2.3	-36.7	-4.4
Unemployment ('000)	251.2	250.1	270.8	1.1	0.4	-19.6	-7.2
Unemployment Rate (%)	5.6	5.6	6.0	0.0	-	-0.4	-
Participation Rate (%)	64.4	64.5	64.9	-0.1	-	-0.5	-
Employment Rate (%)	60.8	60.9	61.0	-0.1	-	-0.2	-

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

Quebec Monthly Employment and Unemployment Rate



In comparison to July data, the unemployment rate remained stable, at 5.6%. This rate was the second lowest among all Canadian provinces, just behind British Columbia where the unemployment rate reached 5.3%. In Quebec, the participation and employment rate both declined by 0.1 percentage point, due to slight decreases in employment and the labour force in comparison to the previous month. On a yearly basis, there was a decline in both the unemployment rate (-0.4 percentage point) and the participation rate (-0.5 percentage point) since last year, which can be attributable to population aging, which is reflected in a more significant proportion of the 55+ age group in the labour market.

Quebec Monthly Unemployment Rates, by Gender and Age

Seasonally Adjusted Data	August 2018 %	July 2018 %	August 2017 %	Monthly Variation (% points)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Total	5.6	5.6	6.0	0.0	-0.4
25 years and over	5.1	4.8	5.3	0.3	-0.2
Men - 25 years and over	5.6	5.2	5.8	0.4	-0.2
Women - 25 years and over	4.5	4.4	4.7	0.1	-0.2
15 to 24 years	8.7	10.1	10.9	-1.4	-2.2
Men - 15 to 24 years	10.5	12.1	11.9	-1.6	-1.4
Women - 15 to 24 years	6.9	8.3	9.8	-1.4	-2.9

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0287

EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

Within industries, employment in the goods-producing sector grew slightly (+0.1%): while gains were posted in manufacturing and the forestry, fishing and mining industry, they were offset by losses in agriculture and construction. In comparison to last year, the goods-producing sector posted a 0.7% increase (+5,700 jobs).

The services sector saw a 0.1% employment decline in comparison to last month (-3,200 jobs). Sectors with declines included trade and public administration, which have been experiencing job losses over the past three

months. Conversely, some industries saw employment increases over the past month: information, culture and recreation, as well as health care and social assistance. Despite the decline during the past month, the yearly picture for the services sector remained positive, with the addition of 14,200 jobs (+0.4%).

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Industry

Seasonally Adjusted Data ('000)	August 2018	July 2018	August 2017	Monthly Variation		Yearly Variation	
				Number	%	Number	%
Total employed, all industries	4,253.3	4,255.6	4,233.4	-2.3	-0.1	19.9	0.5
Goods-producing sector	857.6	856.6	851.9	1.0	0.1	5.7	0.7
Agriculture	53.9	58.2	58.0	-4.3	-7.4	-4.1	-7.1
Forestry, fishing, mining, quarrying, oil and gas	39.9	38.6	36.6	1.3	3.4	3.3	9.0
Utilities	28.2	27.6	25.1	0.6	2.2	3.1	12.4
Construction	246.5	247.4	239.7	-0.9	-0.4	6.8	2.8
Manufacturing	489.0	484.8	492.5	4.2	0.9	-3.5	-0.7
Services-producing sector	3,395.7	3,398.9	3,381.5	-3.2	-0.1	14.2	0.4
Trade	639.4	653.6	664.2	-14.2	-2.2	-24.8	-3.7
Transportation and warehousing	214.8	211.1	209.3	3.7	1.8	5.5	2.6
Finance, insurance, real estate and leasing	242.6	244.1	236.0	-1.5	-0.6	6.6	2.8
Professional, scientific and technical services	323.3	329.4	342.3	-6.1	-1.9	-19.0	-5.6
Business, building and other support services	192.7	196.5	173.4	-3.8	-1.9	19.3	11.1
Educational services	309.6	310.4	289.9	-0.8	-0.3	19.7	6.8
Health care and social assistance	590.6	585.6	587.2	5.0	0.9	3.4	0.6
Information, culture and recreation	191.1	179.5	184.5	11.6	6.5	6.6	3.6
Accommodation and food services	269.5	267.5	273.1	2.0	0.7	-3.6	-1.3
Other services	176.4	174.5	172.7	1.9	1.1	3.7	2.1
Public administration	245.9	246.7	249.0	-0.8	-0.3	-3.1	-1.2

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0355

REGIONAL ANALYSIS

In regards to economic regions, there was noticeable job growth in the following regions: Montréal (+23,300 jobs), Chaudière-Appalaches (+11,800 jobs), Laurentides (+11,300 jobs) and Bas-Saint-Laurent (+10,000 jobs) over the past twelve months. Conversely, some regions experienced a drop in employment levels. The most significant decreases were seen in Lanaudière (-19,500 jobs), Capitale-Nationale (-13,900 jobs) and Montérégie (-12,000 jobs). In comparison to August 2017, the unemployment rate fell in Laval (-2.1 percentage points), Abitibi-Témiscamingue (-1.8 percentage point) and Mauricie (-1.5 percentage point). The most significant unemployment rate increases were posted by the following regions: Gaspésie–Îles-de-la-Madeleine (+1.5 percentage point) and Centre-du-Québec (+1.1 percentage point).

Quebec Monthly Labour Force Statistics, by Economic Region

3-Month Moving Averages Seasonally Unadjusted Data	Employment			Unemployment Rate		
	August 2018 ('000)	August 2017 ('000)	Yearly Variation (%)	August 2018 (%)	August 2017 (%)	Yearly Variation (% points)
Quebec	4,323.5	4,311.1	0.3	5.5	6.0	-0.5
Economic Regions						
Gaspésie—Îles-de-la-Madeleine	37.1	40.9	-9.3	10.4	8.9	1.5
Bas-Saint-Laurent	95.5	85.5	11.7	4.7	6.0	-1.3
Capitale-Nationale	392.7	406.6	-3.4	4.3	4.3	0.0
Chaudière-Appalaches	225.7	213.9	5.5	3.2	3.0	0.2
Estrie	169.6	162.0	4.7	4.2	4.3	-0.1
Centre-du-Québec	119.4	126.9	-5.9	6.6	5.5	1.1
Montérégie	804.8	816.8	-1.5	4.5	4.2	0.3
Montréal	1,078.4	1,055.1	2.2	7.7	8.7	-1.0
Laval	238.0	228.9	4.0	4.7	6.8	-2.1
Lanaudière	250.5	270.0	-7.2	5.4	5.3	0.1
Laurentides	317.9	306.6	3.7	5.7	6.8	-1.1
Outaouais	206.7	204.4	1.1	4.9	5.6	-0.7
Abitibi-Témiscamingue	76.5	76.3	0.3	3.2	5.0	-1.8
Mauricie	128.3	127.9	0.3	4.0	5.5	-1.5
Saguenay—Lac-Saint-Jean	127.4	134.2	-5.1	5.3	5.8	-0.5
Côte-Nord & Nord-du-Québec	54.9	55.2	-0.5	4.2	5.3	-1.1

Note: Totals may not add due to rounding

Source: Statistics Canada Labour Force Survey – Table 14-10-0293

***Note:** In preparing this document, the authors have taken care to provide clients with labour market information that is timely and accurate at the time of publication. Since labour market conditions are dynamic, some of the information presented here may have changed since this document was published. Users are encouraged to also refer to other sources for additional information on the local economy and labour market. Information contained in this document does not necessarily reflect official policies of Employment and Social Development Canada.*

***Prepared by**: Labour Market Analysis Directorate, Service Canada, Quebec*
***For further information**, please contact the LMI team at:*
http://www.esdc.gc.ca/cgi-bin/contact/edsc-esdc/eng/contact_us.aspx?section=lmi
***For information on the Labour Force Survey**, please visit the Statistics Canada website at:*
www.statcan.qc.ca

© Her Majesty the Queen in right of Canada, represented by Employment and Social Development Canada, 2018, all rights reserved